DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BRIEFING PAPER

EXCISE

CONFIDENTIAL

80

KAMPUCHEA: FOLLOW-UP TO UNGA RESOLUTION AND THE FUTURE OF THE RELIEF PROGRAM

The Issues

Two issues related to our overall policy in Indochina which may require early attention by the Reagan administration are diplomatic activities related to the recent UNGA resolution on Kampuchea and the future of the Kampuchean relief program.

[redacted] 1,A5

We have also been a major contributor to the Khmer relief program organized by UNICEF, the International Red Cross (ICRC), and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

In October 1980, the UNGA passed by an overwhelming vote a resolution sponsored by the ASEAN nations which called for an international conference to negotiate a withdrawal of Vietnamese troops and election of an independent Kampuchean government, both under UN supervision. However, Vietnam has described the situation in Kampuchea as "irreversible", and has said it would not attend a conference. Instead, it has proposed discussions which would focus on the narrow issue of Thai/Kampuchean border tensions while ignoring the central issues of Vietnam's military occupation and Khmer self-determination. Hanoi has also said it would not consider negotiations without a guarantee from China that it would cease its "threat" against Vietnam (i.e., pressure along their common border).

[redacted] 1,A5

Since the Kampuchean relief program was launched in 1979 there has been great improvement in the food situation. Starvation has been eliminated, and many refugees have returned from encampments near the border to their villages. The current harvest looks promising. And UNHCR has ogranized a program to repatriate refugees who wish to return to Kampuchea from Thailand. However,

REVIEWED BY Rachke DATE 6/7/83
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☐
RELEASE DENIED☐ in part 1,A5
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

EXCISE

there is still hunger in Kampuchea, and we wish to persuade the relief agencies and other donors that the program should continue for at least another year at an adequate level. B1, A5

[redacted]

Time Factors

The recent UNGA resolution on Kampuchea calls for convening an international conference in 1981. Since the two sides in the conflict, the ASEAN countries (supported by the US, China and Japan) and Vietnam (supported by the Soviet Union) are now at an impasse, a conference is unlikely any time soon.

[redacted] B1, A5

[redacted] B1, A5

UN Policy and Actions

[redacted] B1, A5

[redacted]

EXCISE

[redacted]

In connection with the relief program, we have stressed our view to other donors and senior UN officials that although conditions in Kampuchea have improved, the situation remains tenuous and the relief program should continue at an adequate level at least through the end of 1981.

[redacted]

November 21, 1980

KAMPUCHEA: FOLLOW-UP TO UNGA RESOLUTION
AND THE FUTURE OF THE RELIEF PROGRAM

[redacted]

Drafted: IO/UNP:PCWilcox:cm
11/21/80 x22394

Clearances: IO/UNP:MLevitsky
IO:MHNewlin
EA/VLC:RBurghardt
EA:JNegroponte

November 21, 1980

[redacted]